6. 2301/2302 New Delhi-Howrah Rajdhani Express
7. 2305/2306 New Delhi-Howrah Rajdhani Express (via Patna)
8. 2303/2304 Purva Express
9. 2381/2382 Purva Express
10. 2309/2310 New Delhi-Patna Rajdhani Express
11. 2311/2312 Kalka Mail
12. 2307/2308 Howrah-Jodhpur Express
13. 2391/2392 Magadh Express
14. 2401/2402 Shramjeevi Express
15. 2403/2404 Delhi-Jammu Tawi Express
16. 2413/2414 Delhi-Jaipur Express
17. 2417/2418 Prayagraj Express
18. 2421/2422 New Delhi-Bhubaneshwar Rajdhani Express
19. 2423/2424 New Delhi-Guwahati Rajdhani Express
20. 2425/2426 New Delhi-Jammu Tawi Rajdhani Express
21. 2429/2430 Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani Express
22. 2431/2432 Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani Express
23. 4057/4058 Kashi Vishwanath Express
24. 4229/4230 Lucknow Mail
25. 2553/2554 Vaishali Express
26. 5621/5622 North East Express
27. 2615/2616 G.T. Express
28. 2621/2622 Tamil Nadu Express
29. 2633/2634 Nizamuddin-Madras Rajdhani Express
30. 6045/6046 Navjeevan Express
31. 6519/6520 Bangalore-Guwahati Express
32. 6673/6674 Cheran Express
33. 7001/7002 Hussain Sagar Express
34. 7007/7008 Godavari Express
35. 7031/7032 Hyderabad-Mumbai Express
36. 7059/7060 Charminar Express
37. 2723/2724 A.P. Express
38. 2801/2802 Purshottam Express
39. 2841/2842 Coromandal Express
40. 2859/2860 Geetanjali Express
41. 2903/2904 Golden Temple Mail
42. 2951/2952 New Delhi-Mumbai Rajdhani Express
43. 2953/2954 August Kranti Rajdhani Express
44. 2955/2956 Jaipur-Mumbai Express
45. 2961/2962 Avantika Express
46. 9101/9102 Gujarat Mail

Norms for Declaration for Scarcity Hit Districts

1527. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any districts in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra have been declared as scarcity hit districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the norms adopted to identify and notify such districts; indicating the population affected by scarcity, district-wise;

(c) the amount of Central assistance sought by the respective State Governments for relief measures; and

(d) Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) The norms adopted for declaration of any area as scarcity affected vary from State to State. On the basis of the provisions contained in the Relief Manuals, Talukas/Villages which suffer crop loss of over 50% are declared as scarcity affected. According to the information received from the State Governments, 593 villages in 5 Talukas in Kachchh districts of Gujarat covering a population of 5.10 lakhs have been declared scarcity hit during 1996-97. Based on the crop cutting experiments, 13664 villages

in 20 districts of Orissa are reported to have sustained crop loss of 50% and above. In the remaining 8 districts of Balasore, Bhadrak, Gujapati, Ganjam, Khurda, Puri, Sambalpur and Sundargarh, 8306 villages have sustained crop loss of 50% and above, on the basis of eye estimation. As per eye appraisal 21 Talukas in 8 districts in Madhya Pradesh and 1650 villages in 7 districts in Maharashtra are facing drought conditions.

(c) and (d) Memoranda have been received from the States of Gujarat and Orissa seeking additional Central financial assistance of Rs. 50.00 crores and Rs. 585.80 crores respectively for drought relief measures. A Central Team has visited Orissa on 17-20 November, 1996 to assess the drought situation and make recommendations for consideration of the National calamity Relief Committee about the quantum of additional assistance. The request of the Government of Gujarat is under consideration.

Permission for construction of a bus depot at Penukonda

1528. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested for resuming the construction work of a Bus Depot at penukonda in Anantapur District as public is being inconvenienced for want of a Bus Depot facility; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposed site for construction of the Bus Depot is very near the monument and falls within the prohibited limit of 100 metres. As per the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules, 1959, no construction is allowed within this prohibited zone. The State Government has been advised to identify some other site for the purpose.

Modernisation of Farm Sector

1529. SHRI O.P. KOHLI:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the area under cultivation is declining whereas the requirement of agricultural products is gradually increasing;

(b) if so, whether Government has called for private investment in the farm sector to infuse advanced technology to improve agricultural productivity, build infrastructure, educate and train farmers to shed their age-old systems and adopt modern methods;

(c) whether there has been any response to their call and if so, the broad details thereof;

(d) the steps taken by Government themselves, with the indigenously available resources, to modernise the farm sector; and

(e) if no such steps have been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The net sown area has been stagnant at about 142 million hectares during the years 1989-90 to 1993-94 (latest available). The requirement of agricultural products is increasing on account of increase in populaton as well as income.

(b) to (e) There are no restrictions on private sector investment in the farm sector. in fact, the Government is encouraging private investment in the farm sector by providing the support of infrastructure, credit, research, training and education and by creating a favourable price and trade regime. Various Plan schemes are implemented for increasing production and productivity of crops. Accordingly, the private sector gross capital formation in agriculture (at 1980-81 prices) which was Rs. 2840 crore in 1980-81 increased to Rs. 3441 crore in 1990-91 and to Rs. 4762 crore in 1994-95.